GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2317
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2005
ARMS BUSINESS WITH AMERICA
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has requested the US to correct its dependability deficit if it is to emerge as a major arms supplier to India;

(b) if so, whether India has pointed out that US laws leave buyers of American equipment sanctions-prone;

(c) if so, whether India wants assurance in its defence preparedness won't be affected by sanctions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (d): India and USA have shown interest in developing a defence equipment and technology relationship in the framework of positive trends in India-US relations in areas of mutual interest. In this context, the US has been advised that because of its implications for national security, for any defence trade and equipment relationship to prosper, concerns regarding reliability of supplies, including sanctions, under US laws, must be addressed.